

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 093336
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY AF/C:TBUCHANAN/HFO

APPROVED BY AF:WSCHAUFLELE

-----260249Z 117245 /66

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093336

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: FOR, CG, AO

SUBJECT: DISCUSSION OF ZAIRE WITH ANGOLAN UN REPRESENTA-
TIVE

1. AF/C DIRECTOR AND USUN OFFICER MET WITH ANGOLAN UN
REPRESENTATIVE FIGUEREDO ON APRIL 25 AT U.S. INITIATIVE TO
CONVEY FOLLOWING MESSAGE:

--PLANNED BEGIN TALKS AFTER APRIL 1 ON WAYS TO NORMALIZE
RELATIONS AS SOON AS BOTH GOVERNMENTS WERE READY BUT NEW
PROBLEM AROSE OF ZAIRE.

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--CANNOT BE INDIFFERENT TO ATTACK AGAINST STATE WITH WHICH
WE HAVE LONG, FRIENDLY ASSOCIATION, MOUNTED FROM ANGOLAN
TERRITORY.

--HOPE LUANDA AGREES IT IS IN INTERESTS OF ALL CONCERNED TO
PREVENT FURTHER ESCALATION AND RESOLVE MATTER QUICKLY; IN
THIS CONNECTION, STRONGLY SUPPORT NIGERIAN INITIATIVE.

--REITERATED WHAT NIGERIANS WERE AUTHORIZED TELL NETO
I.E. WE PREPARED TO OPEN TALKS WITHOUT PRECONDITIONS PROVIDED THERE IS PROGRESS WITH RESPECT TO ZAIRE.

--PROGRESS IN OUR JUDGMENT SHOULD MEAN RAPID MOVEMENT
TOWARD NEGOTIATIONS, INCLUDING AGREEMENT ON TIME, PLACE
AND AGENDA FOR TALKS; WE INVITE LUANDA'S VIEWS ON HOW THIS
PROGRESS MAY BE ACHIEVED.

--AWARE ALSO OF ANGOLA'S GRIEVANCES AGAINST ZAIRE; HENCE
HOPE FOR SUCCESSFUL NIGERIAN MEDIATION AND NEGOTIATIONS
BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES.

--CATEGORICALLY DENY FEBRUARY 24 AND OTHER CHARGES THAT
U.S. MILITARY OR OTHER OFFICERS ARE PLANNING OR PREPARED
TO PARTICIPATE IN MILITARY ACTIVITY DIRECTED AGAINST
ANGOLA; UNSUBSTANTIATED CHARGES ARE NOT HELPFUL TO
IMPROVEMENT IN RELATIONS; OUR ASSISTANCE TO ZAIRE DOES NOT
THREATEN ANGOLA.

--FIRM SUPPORT FOR MEDIATION AND NEGOTIATION SHOULD DEMON-
STRATE OUR DESIRE IS FOR PEACE IN AREA, WHICH IN TURN
COULD FACILITATE TALKS ON NORMALIZATION.

--DANGER OF FIGHTING SPREADING IS GREATER THE LONGER
FIGHTING LASTS AND THE GREATER THE ESCALATION; WE ARE
USING OUR INFLUENCE TO PREVENT THIS AND HOPE OTHERS ARE
WORKING TO SAME END.

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--CONTINUE TO BE INTERESTED IN OPENING TALKS AND WILL BE
FOLLOWING SITUATION CLOSELY WITH THIS IN MIND. LOOK
FORWARD TO ANGOLAN REACTION.

2. IN REPLY, FIGUEREDO STRESSED SPECIAL INTEREST ANGOLA
HAS IN NORMALIZING RELATIONS WITH U.S. AMONG OTHER
COUNTRIES IN WORLD, ON BASIS OF NON-INTERFERENCE IN
INTERNAL AFFAIRS. HE INDICATED AS EXPECTED THAT
ZAIRIAN PROBLEM IS INTERNAL, THAT ANGOLA IS ONLY INTERES-
TED IN PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE AFTER SO MANY YEARS OF
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IN ZAIRE. FIGUEREDO ACCUSED MOBUTU, HOWEVER, OF
REACTIVATING HOSTILE ACTIVITY AGAINST ANGOLA WITHIN MONTH
OF HIS MEETING IN BRAZZAVILLE WITH NETO. IN THIS
CONNECTION, HE COMPLAINED OVER LACK OF AWARENESS, AT
LEAST IN U.S. PRESS, OF ATROCITIES COMMITTED AGAINST
POPULATION IN NORTHERN ANGOLAN TOWNS. (IN BRIEF COMMENT
ON THESE REMARKS, AF/C DIRECTOR NOTED SIMPLY THERE WERE

GRIEVANCES ON BOTH SIDES, SOME INCIDENTS APPEARED TO BE CONTINUATION OF ANGOLAN CIVIL WAR, AND THERE SEEMED TO BE NEED FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION ON BOTH SIDES. WHAT WAS ESSENTIAL WAS TO BEGIN PROCESS OF DIALOGUE TO BRING PEACE TO AREA.)

3. FIGUEREDO (WHOSE ENGLISH IS FLUENT) TOOK NO NOTES AND DID NOT AVAIL HIMSELF OF OFFER OF READING TEXT FROM WHICH AF/C DIRECTOR SPOKE. HE LISTENED INTENTLY, HOWEVER, AND SUMMARIZED MAIN POINTS ACCURATELY, SAYING HE WOULD PASS ON MESSAGE TO PRESIDENT NETO. HE SEEMED TO GET SOMEWHAT HUNG UP, HOWEVER, OVER QUESTION WHETHER U.S. WAS REALLY INTERESTED IN RECOGNIZING ANGOLA, AND WAS NOT MAKING ZAIRE PEACE A PRECONDITION FOR FURTHER TALKS. (COMMENT: TO MINIMIZE DANGER OF MISUNDERSTANDING, AF/C DIRECTOR ASKED USUN OFFICER TO MAKE CLEAR TO FIGUEREDO AGAIN ON EARLY SUITABLE OCCASION THAT PROGRESS DID NOT NECESSARILY

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MEAN FINAL SETTLEMENT BETWEEN ZAIRE AND ANGOLA.

4. FOR LAGOS. AMBASSADOR SHOULD INFORM GARBA OF SUBSTANCE OF ABOVE APPROACH SO THAT HE CAN BE PREPARED SHOULD NETO APPEAR OR CHOOSE TO MISUNDERSTAND OUR POSITION.

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INFO OCT-01 SS-15 ISO-00 SSO-00 /016 R

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DRAFTED BY: IO/UNP:GBHELMAN

APPROVED BY: IO:PBUNGE

AF:TBUCHANAN

S/S- AWOTTO

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 093336

EXDIS

FOL TEL SENT ACTION LAGOS INFO MOSCOW LISBON KINSHASA DAR
ES SALAAM PARIS BRUSSELS LONDON DTD 26 APR 1977

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE093336
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: TBUCHANAN/HFO
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From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
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Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
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To: LAGOS
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